

THE ARGUS.

Published daily at 1024 Second avenue, Rock Island, Ill. (Entered at the postoffice as second-class matter.)

Rock Island Member of the Associated Press.

BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

TERMS—Ten cents per week by carrier. In Rock Island; \$3 per year by mail in advance.

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Telephone in all departments. Central Union, Rock Island 148, 1145 and 2148.



Wednesday, January 28, 1914.

While few are killed in Mexican battles the massacres are bloody.

The Webster (Mass.) man who lives on 4 cents a day escapes the twinges of gout.

A Puritan wave must have struck Berlin, where the police is raiding corset shops.

The Dayton, Ohio, city manager is to be managed by an accomplished young woman from Kentucky.

King Alfonso says he reads no books. The same might be said of a majority of his subjects.

Emperor William keeps in good condition by chopping wood. Col. Roosevelt accomplishes the same result by sawing.

The Indianapolis News says that if the country is to have as many political parties as Senator Cummins thinks, it looks as if there were busy days ahead for Bourke Cockran.

How far we have departed from aristocratic conceptions in this country is attested, in a way, by a remark contained in a recent decision of the United States circuit court of appeals that there is no moral turpitude in publishing a libel against a king than against a field laborer in Devon or a street sweeper in London.

That the meat producing animals in the United States should during the past year have decreased in number though increasing in value, while the number of horses should have increased despite the competition of motor vehicles, presents a contrast of facts sufficiently interesting to be worth study as one of the minor paradoxes of economics.

IT IS HERE.

A Chicago newspaper has interviewed a large number of the biggest merchants, manufacturers and financiers in that city and they all agree that a long period of prosperity is in sight. Things that move them to optimism are:

More plentiful supply of money and lower rates of interest.

Coming inauguration of the new system of regional reserve banks, which is counted on "to make panics impossible."

Better understanding between business men and the administration.

FREEING THE FILIPINOS.

One objection advanced to the proposal to grant the Filipinos independence is that the United States' withdrawal from the islands would be followed by the entry of Japan or some other power.

This objection is gently overcome in a resolution presented in the senate by Senator Overman of North Carolina. It provides independence as soon as the same can be achieved "with honor to the United States" and provides further that the president shall be empowered to negotiate with England, Germany, France, Russia, Italy and Japan—all the naval powers—for the preservation of that independence, when granted, and making the Philippines neutral territory in time of war. The resolution went to the senate committee on insular affairs.

The Overman proposal is open to the objection that in agreeing to neutralize the islands in war this country might strip itself of one of the commanding stations of the Pacific. The answer to this is that Uncle Sam would still have the advantage in the Pacific and that he does not need the Philippines, having Hawaii, to protect the western sea coast.

AVIATION'S DEATH TOLL.

Aviator Hamilton, whose life ended several days ago, is one of the airmen who have gone into the beyond who didn't die with his boots on. But he died as the result of his perilous work, which made a nervous wreck of him. Hamilton's death will therefore not be reckoned among the "toll of the air" for 1914. It is hoped, by the way, that this toll will not be as heavy this year as it was last year.

Popular Mechanics for February prints a list of the casualties to airmen. It shows that as against 140 aviation fatalities in 1912, there were 492 in 1913. In all the years before 1912, since the Wrights made the first public flights in heavier-than-air machines, there had been but 114 deaths.

—1 in 1908, 4 in 1909, 32 in 1910, and 77 in 1911.

Twenty-six of the deaths of 1913 occurred in the United States, 18 in Great Britain, 61 in Germany, 51 in France and 36 in various other countries. Twelve airmen fell into the water and were drowned, 157 were killed by the impact of falling to earth, 9 were burned to death and 14 met death in various other ways, 9 of these being spectators who were killed while watching the airmen. One hundred and forty-six of those killed were piloting their machines at the time, 15 were mechanics and 22 were passengers.

September produced the longest list of casualties, 23 fatal accidents occurring in that month. There were 23 in April and an equal number in July, while December was the safest month, with but six deaths.

Undoubtedly the best known airman who was killed in 1913 was Colonel S. F. Cody, an American naturalized in England, who had done perhaps more than any other one man to further the interests of aviation in Great Britain and had won international fame through his inventions. He was killed Aug. 7 by the failure of a biplane of his own construction. A passenger with him was also killed. Almost equally famous in Europe was M. Vaucou, a Roumanian pioneer in aviation, who was killed Sept. 13 at Bucharest. Charles Nieuport, a French airman, famous the world around as a designer and builder of monoplane, was killed Jan. 24.

Besides the 192 fatalities due to aeroplane accidents, 50 persons lost their lives in 1913 through accidents to dirigibles or dirigible balloons. Twenty-eight were killed Oct. 17, when the Zeppelin "L 2" exploded over Johannishall; 15 died when the "L 1" was wrecked in the North sea, Sept. 9; five French aeronauts were killed by the wrecking of a balloon, April 17 and two German soldiers were dropped from a Zeppelin that broke away from its moorings Sept. 10.

What Mr. Wright's new safety device, which promises to make aviation foolproof, will do toward diminishing the death rate remains to be seen.

PARCEL POST AND EXPRESS COMPETITION.

That public competition with private monopoly is a good thing for the people and the life of trade and also that it does not put monopoly out of business, it inspires it to up-to-date exertions and good service, is shown by the illustration furnished by the competition between the parcel post system and the express companies.

It was thought by many that the introduction of the parcel post system would make it impossible for the express companies to live or at least confine their business to very large packages, and thus greatly handicap the service and reduce its usefulness.

From present appearances it does not seem that any such results will follow. The express companies are going to meet the parcel post on its own terms and go it one better, and the parcel post will have to look to its laurels, which of course it will do.

The express companies have just issued a schedule of new rates, which has been approved by the interstate commerce commission, and will go into effect February 1.

The samples of these rates which we find in an exchange illustrate how the competition between the companies and the parcel post is going to be of great advantage to the people.

The old express rate of \$1 on a 20 pound package from New York to Chicago will become 64 cents. The express company will call for the package, transport it and deliver it for that sum. The parcel post rate between the same points and for the same weight is \$1.22, and the man who wants to ship his 20 pounds by parcel post will trudge to the postoffice with it himself.

The old express rate of 75 cents on five pounds from New York to Dallas, Texas, will become 45 cents. The parcel post charges are 51 cents. On 10 pounds the old express company rate of \$1.15 will become 70 cents; the parcel post charges are \$1.01. The old express company rate of \$1.65 for 20 pounds will become \$1.20; parcel post, \$2.61.

The old express company rate of 65 cents on five pounds from New York to Milwaukee will become 32 cents, the same as the parcel post. But the old express company rate of 40 cents on 10 pounds will become 44 cents, as against the parcel post rate of 52 cents. The old express company rate of \$1.10 on 20 pounds will become 68 cents, as against the parcel post charge of \$1.23.

This competition of the express companies is not going to put the parcel post system out of business any more than the competition of the parcel post has put the express companies out of business. But the live competition between the two will result not only in cheapening the traffic to the people, but will be instrumental in bringing about more careful, more expeditious and better service in every way.

The express companies for years have enjoyed a practical monopoly of a very profitable business, and were loth to give it up. They fought the introduction of the parcel post system, but now that the system is established, the express companies cheerfully meet it and continue in business with a vigor that insures success.

Competition is the life of trade. It is a public benefactor.

Freed of Attempt to Slay.

Decatur, Ill., Jan. 28.—John Gibson of Springfield, arrested for an alleged attempt to kill Dr. J. W. McClellan, a veterinary surgeon at Neoga, was discharged because of lack of evidence at a preliminary hearing yesterday. Dr. McClellan charges that some one fired a revolver at him at close range Sunday while he was entering his barn, but he was unable to find his assailant.

Capital Comment

BY OLYDE H. TAVENNER

Congressman from the Fourteenth District.

(Special Correspondence of The Argus.)

Washington, Jan. 26.—For farmers: How to get more money for your crops: Cooperate, standardize, advertise.

That, in a nutshell, is the advice of Secretary of Agriculture Houston, and is the result of 10 months of study on the part of the newly organized bureau of markets.

The government investigators have received many valuable pointers from the cooperative five marketing efforts of the fruit growers of southern California and elsewhere, and the experts now believe that what California has done with oranges, and what Washington and Oregon have done with apples, other sections of the country can do with potatoes, hams, and in fact all standard farm products. Every community has one product which reaches perfection in that locality. By intelligent cooperation among all the farmers of the community that product can become a source of profit to all, in the opinion of Secretary Houston.

"The farmers must be induced in particular communities to develop staple products," said Mr. Houston, "to standardize them, to prepare them properly for market, to study what market to reach at a given time, and the best and most economic method of shipping, nothing less than concerted action will suffice. The individual farmer cannot solve the problem. He cannot sufficiently control the problem of production, or the machinery for marketing, or the transportation facilities."

United States Fish Commissioner Hugo M. Smith has been making a study of the life habits of the common eel, and in an article prepared for the National Geographic society he shows that the eel is one of the strangest of all fishes. Although eels are found in inland streams sometimes thousands of miles from salt water, yet they are all spawned in the oceans, probably in the dark and soundless depths of mid-ocean, and in reaching the fresh water sources they have traveled thousands of miles.

It is probable, according to Mr. Smith, that eels never deposit their spawn in water less than a mile deep. The eggs at once rise to the surface of the ocean, where they hatch. The young larval eel is less than 1-25th of an inch long when hatched. It floats about the surface for a year, in which time it becomes a ribbon-like fish three inches long, yet in that time it eats nothing whatever. How it lives and grows is a mystery.

In this larval period the young eels drift 1,000 miles or so, eventually reaching the coasts and fresh water. They make their way upstream over dams and other obstacles, and on reaching headwaters remain until full grown, when they begin their journey to the sea again.

A TALE FROM ILLINOIS

(Christian Herald.)

September 3 last 45 convicts from the state penitentiary at Joliet boarded a special interurban car for Aurora, Ill., where they were to take a special car on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad to Dixon. They were dressed in civilian clothes and only two unarmed guards accompanied them.

One night when the men were gathered in the big tent which is used in

common in the evening, an alarm of fire came to the camp, and the whole 45 followed the superintendent over the fields and through woods for two miles until they reached a farm where a big barn was blazing, threatening outbuildings and residence. They succeeded in saving the house and outbuildings, but the barn had to go.

At midnight 45 convicts arrived at their camp unguarded, and lay down to a well-earned rest.

WIRE SPARKS

Washington—A favorable report was ordered by the senate committee on postoffices and post roads of the resolution introduced by Senator Norris of Nebraska directing that the postmaster general send to the senate the results of the investigation he has made regarding government ownership and control of means of communication with a view to acquisition by the government of the telegraph and telephone facilities, to be operated as an adjunct to the postal service.

New York—Two chauffeurs, John Chandler and Chester Cravis, members of a band of automobile thieves, charged with stealing cars worth \$100,000 during the last two years, pleaded guilty. Sentence was deferred.

New York—The trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art have accepted the art treasures of the late Benjamin Altman, the largest and most valuable gift of paintings, porcelains, tapestries, rugs, china, enamels, statuary and other objects ever received by that institution.

New York—The corporation of John H. Woodbury, face specialists, through its manager, Payton R. McCargo, was summoned to police court to answer a charge of practicing medicine without a license.

Washington—Representative Robert G. Brenner of New Jersey, who is being treated with radium for cancer in a Baltimore hospital, is improving slowly.

Paris—Officials of the French chamber of deputies declined to permit the prefix "prince" to be used in connection with the name of the son of Prince Victor Napoleon in a question addressed to the government.

"The Young Lady Across the Way"



The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that there was a considerable decrease in the world's visible supply of wheat but she supposed most of it was inside the barns by this time.

The ONLOOKER

HENRY HOWLAND

Profit

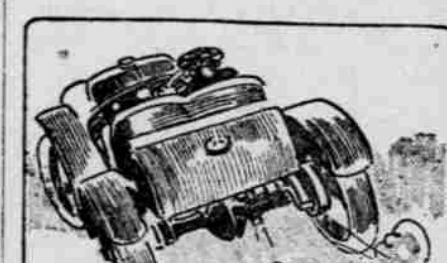
His father had toiled and his father had saved.
His father left pleasure untasted;
When he might have had ease his father still labored.
Afraid that a day might be wasted.

His father declined to be free from the grind
That hardened his soul and his senses;
He smothered all cravings of body and mind,
For the purpose of saving expenses.



His father, at last, having wealth that was vast,
Went the way that all fathers must travel;
His gridding was done and his saving was past,
So they hauled him out over the gravel.

He inherited all that his father had gained
By striving and toiling at pleasure;
Not a lawyer, indeed, had a chance to proceed,
For the purpose of sharing the treasure.



With his gaze and his thoughts centered on the high spots,
His toes seldom touched on the level,
And, leaving a streak of blue smoke in his wake,
He hurried heading to the devil.

It Wouldn't Go.
"I'm afraid," said the venerable minister, "I shall not be able to get up a new sermon for next Sunday. Do you suppose the congregation would notice it if I hunted up one that I used, say 15 or 20 years ago, and gave it again?"

"I'm almost sure," his wife replied, "that it would be noticed."

"Do you think they remember my preaching as well as that?"

"Oh, I don't think they remember what you preach much longer than it takes them to reach the church door; but you would be quickly found out all the same if you attempted to make use of a sermon that you had preached 15 or 20 years ago. You used to try to scare people by hinting that there was a devil, you know."

Too Ready to Quit.
"It is very kind of you to ask me to be your wife; but I must refuse. I hope you will not hurry away and do anything rash."

"Don't worry about that. I merely wanted to be sure that we understood each other."

"You are so sensible that I am going to take back what I said and accept you."

HER HELP.
"The fact of the matter is I never amounted to anything before I was married."

"Then you give your wife credit for making you ambitions?"

"No; for making it necessary for me to get out and hustle."

The Mule.
The mule is stupid, so they say;
He has no brain with which to think;
But he can always turn away
When he has had enough to drink.
No matter if his foolish brother
Insists that he must have another.

Supreme Faith.
"I gave my wife a check for \$1,000 yesterday."

"What was the cause of your liberality?"

"I knew she'd never have the nerve to try to cash it."

If.
"What do you suppose Diogenes would have done if he had found an honest man?"

"He would probably have hired a manager and made a fortune lecturing about the discovery."

The Daily Story

HELOISE DURAND—BY MARIAN KNOX.

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The Riviera is a favorite place for the aristocracy of Europe to winter, especially Russians, who are often glad to escape the snow and ice and cold winds of that bleak empire. Nice, Mentone and other points on the Mediterranean sea are during the months of December, January and February thronged with people, who find there both a balmy climate and gaiety.

About the middle of the nineteenth century an American girl gifted not only with beauty, but a remarkable histrionic genius, seventeen years old, was visiting the Riviera with her mother and brother. One afternoon while walking on the promenade on the Mediterranean shore the party met among the throng of idlers a tall, handsome young man whose light hair and blue eyes marked him for a northerner. As he passed the girl's gaze was fixed upon her with admiration, while she lowered her gaze to the ground.

These two were real personages, but since this is a story rather than an account we will call the girl Heloise Durand and the man Count Stremoff. The latter was a young Russian, a member of one of the aristocratic families of St. Petersburg. He lost no time in discovering who was the girl of such striking appearance he had met and in looking for some one to introduce him to her.

He was successful in making her acquaintance, and then began a courtship which would likely have but one ending for so young a girl courted by a nobleman handsome as a picture and possessing the most charming manners. Satan is pictured with cloven feet and a disagreeable countenance. But his most effective work is done under the guise of beauty. The two listened to the music to be enjoyed at Nice, promenaded on the sea walk and were together in sailing parties on the blue waters of the Mediterranean. And all this while the count was pouring into her ear his tale of love.

The Durands were satisfied that the count's position was all he claimed it to be, and since Heloise was of an age when a girl is easily won she was not



Count Stremoff received an official document from the czar ordering him to go to Warsaw and complete the marriage that he had begun on the Riviera. An order from the autocrat of all the Russias to one of his subjects is not to be despised. One who by a sed can send persons, without the semblance of a trial, to work in the dreary mines in Siberia is not likely to be disobeyed when he directs a man to do justice to a woman. And the wronged girl had behind her the power of the great American republic to reinforce the czar.

Count Stremoff dared not disobey his sovereign's order, and at the appointed time the so called wedding party met at the church, the bride wearing a black dress, attended by her father, her mother and the groom's brother, who had been very kind to the injured girl. The father had conceded on his person a revolver, determined that if the villain refused to convey the necessary legal rights to his daughter he would at least prevent his working any more mischief.

The bride and groom met at the altar rail. Probably no more dramatic scene, certainly no more unique one, ever was enacted in a church. The groom was simply passing through a form in obedience to the will of one who held over him the power of life and death; the bride was enduring as ordeal to make her a legal wife. But for her it was a terrible crisis, knowing as she did that her father was armed and at the slightest disposition on the part of the groom to recede the ceremony would be turned into a tragedy. She must have prayed silently there before the altar that she might be spared a bloody ending of her misfortune.

The priest began the marriage service, all save the bride keeping their eyes fixed on the count, wondering by what sorcery, if any, he might escape to escape what was to be forced upon him. To all, especially the bride, the service seemed interminable. But at last it was ended, and Heloise Durand had become legally as well as really the Countess Stremoff. The bride and groom parted at the door of the church, never to meet again.

The Americans fled from Russia at once, for by the Russian law the husband can imprison, beat, in every way ill treat his wife if he can get his hands on her. They reached the border the same day and were safe.

What became of the groom, whether he continued his villainy or had been sobered by this one experience, is not known. The wedding took place more than half a century ago, and his name, save for this episode, wherein he showed his villainy, has sunk into oblivion. Not so his wife. She became one of the world's famous actresses. Yet of all the dramas in which she ever played it is questionable if any was so truly dramatic as the one in which she had played the real, the principal role in the days of her early youth.

weeks waiting, while there we can be united at once."

This was not true. No couple could be married in the Greek church during Lent in Russia any more than in Paris. The girl protested, but in vain. Stremoff seemed determined, and, becoming fearful of his integrity, not daring to keep her secret longer, Heloise told her mother of his solicitations.

At the same time rumors came to Mrs. Durand that Stremoff was a rake and a profligate, without any sense of honor whatever. Fortunately the Durands were relatives of the American minister at St. Petersburg, and the mother wrote him with reference to the marriage and the rumors she had heard. The ambassador wrote her to come at once to the capital.

The fact of having the influence of one of so much importance at the Russian court makes this episode in real life one of the remarkable stories of the world. Mrs. Durand and the young bride—the latter assumed the title and name of Countess Stremoff—went to Russia and stayed at the American embassy. They were informed by the count's brother that he was a villain and that they had better have nothing further to do with him.

Stremoff while drawing a young American girl into his toils had no idea that she had the opportunity of calling to her aid the power of the United States. Her cousin, the ambassador, took the matter as an indignity to an American citizen to the Russian government and asked for redress for the young countess. The result of his representations was an arrangement between the two powers that the pair be officially married at Warsaw, in Russian Poland. The count, who by this time had thrown off the mask, showing that he had intended to make Mrs. Durand his dupes, refused to go to Warsaw or be married.

And here comes in among the wrongs that may be perpetrated by despotic power a case of right. Probably no other sovereign, no head of a republic surely, would have been able to compel this rascal to do justice to the girl he had intended to win for the purpose of deserting her when won, except the czar of Russia.

One day Stremoff received an official document from the czar ordering him to go to Warsaw and complete the marriage that he had begun on the Riviera. An order from the autocrat of all the Russias to one of his subjects is not to be despised. One who by a sed can send persons, without the semblance of a trial, to work in the dreary mines in Siberia is not likely to be disobeyed when he directs a man to do justice to a woman. And the wronged girl had behind her the power of the great American republic to reinforce the czar.

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Jan. 28 in American History.

1859—William H. Prescott, noted historian, author of works on Spanish conquests of South American states; also of Mexico, died in Boston; born in Salem, Mass., 1796.

1864—The legislature of Maryland voted to abolish negro slavery.

1900—The government of Cuba formally turned over to President Gomez by United States Governor General Magoon.

Just Goes Out.

Juvenile—Mamma, when the fire goes out where does it go? Mother—I don't know, dear. You might just as well ask where your father goes when he goes out.